



Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05788.0189

# 21502

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Giacomo Stefano ROBA et al. )  
) Group Art Unit:  
Serial No.: 09/986,622 )  
) Examiner:  
Filed: November 9, 2001 )  
)  
For: METHOD AND INDUCTION )  
FURNACE FOR DRAWINGS )  
LARGE DIAMETER )  
PREFORMS TO OPTICAL )  
FIBRES )

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a non-English language:

1. Italian Patent No. 107118 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application;
2. Japanese Publication No. 01192741 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 9 of the specification of the present application and in the enclosed English-language translation;
3. German Patent No. 3025680 A1 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the present application;
4. German Patent No. 3731345 A1 - The relevance of this document is discussed in the enclosed English-language abstract; and
5. French Publication No. 2 249 847.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please  
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 25, 2002

By:   
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures  
EFC/FPD/peg

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